

Partnerships Authorities and



Partnership Functions

- **Receipt of donated funds**
- **Transfer funds to nonprofit**
- **Shift of management responsibilities**
- **Work with cooperating association**
- **Acceptance of in-kind donations/services**
- **Partner will undertake fundraising campaign**
- **Exchange/transfer funds with a federal agency**

Menu of Agreements and Partnering Tools

- **MOU/MOA**
- **Volunteer Agreement**
- **Contribution**
- **Challenge Partnership**
- **Cooperating Association Agreement**
- **Lease/License**
- **Economy Act**
- **Other Tools - concessions, contracts, special event permits**



Partnering Authorities

Which one do I use?

- **Does an organized group want to assist with long term missions such as natural resources management, visitor service activities?**
 - MOA, MOU - coordination agreement that spells out responsibilities of each partner
 - Cannot be used to obligate or receive funds
 - Signed by district commander

Partnering Authorities

Which one do I use?

- **Is an individual or group offering in-kind services (only labor)?**

- Volunteer Agreement (signed by OPM)
 - Agreement spells out scope of work
 - OPM at risk if proper training is not provided



Partnering Authorities

Which one do I use?

■ Is an individual or group offering to give us something without conditions?

- Contributions Authority
 - No formal agreement
 - Must be contained in the OMP
 - Must have a contributions plan
 - Cannot accept real property



Partnering Authorities

Which one do I use?

- Does an organized group want to assist with cash, materials and/or in-kind services?**
- Is there a need to transfer funding to USACE?**
- Is grant funding from the partner involved?**
- Is this a short term, definable project?**

Partnering Authorities

Which one do I use?

- Challenge Partnership
 - Under \$25k signed by OPM
 - Share amount determined by mutual agreement
 - Allows USACE to accept funds or materials and apply them to the project
 - On USACE operated lands; cannot be used with lessees
 - Agreements are not cooperative agreements as defined in the Federal Grant and Cooperative Agreement Act of 1977(Assistance Authority)
 - Cannot accept real estate

Partnering Authorities

Which one do I use?

- **Does an organized group operate as a “friends group” with capability to raise funds or sell merchandise?**

- Cooperating Association (Cooperative Agreement)
 - Refers to a legal entity organized under state law
 - Enjoys a nonprofit tax-exempt status under IRS codes as a 501(c)(3)

Partnering Authorities

Which one do I use?

- Agreement spells out how profit will be used
- Ability to conduct special events that raise funds
- Sales of educational items only
- Concessionaire and special event permits
 - Allow sales merchandise and food items that require competition



Partnering Authorities

Which one do I use?

■ Does an organized group want to jointly operate an area or assist USACE with long term maintenance?

● Lease or License

- Authorizes use of government property or transfers management responsibility
- Standard clauses cannot be changed
- Joint management capability for fish and wildlife but not for recreation
- “non-traditional” leases



Partnering Authorities

Which one do I use?

■ Does another federal agency want to jointly fund a product or manage an area?

● Economy Act

- Funds are available
- Ordering agency determines that it is in the best interest of the government.
- Ordering agency decides that ordered goods or services cannot be provided as conveniently or cheaply by contract with commercial enterprise.
- Determination and Findings (D&F) document, prepared by the ordering agency.

Transition Memo

- Intended to focus on establishing and maintaining community relationships associated with ongoing partnerships and collaborative work.
- Is not intended to be a comprehensive list of activities and/or projects.
- Partnership and collaborative efforts that have formal agreements in place should be referenced with a brief description of the activity to date.

Transition Memo

- Describe the current partnership and collaborative efforts underway at your project.
- Commitments or schedules associated with current partnership and collaborative efforts.
- Current working agreements or procedures.
- Strategy for meeting and getting to know your community.

References

Other Agency Websites

- [National Park Service Partnerships](#)
- [Bureau of Land Management - Partnerships](#)
- [U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service - Partners for Fish and Wildlife Program](#)
- [U.S. Forest Service - Partnership Resource Center](#)
- [USACE Partnership Philosophy and Talking Points](#)
- [Working with Congressional Staff](#)
- [Partnership Checklist](#)
- [Partners in Action -Success stories](#)
- [Partnerships 101](#)
- [Transition Memo](#)

[**http://corpslakes.usace.army.mil/partners/partners.html**](http://corpslakes.usace.army.mil/partners/partners.html)